

MINUTES OF MEETING OF
THE CO-OPERATIVE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA
HELD AT THE CONFERENCE ROOM,
THE AUSTRALIAN AUTOMOTIVE
AFTERMARKET ASSOCIATION, MELBOURNE
ON 28 FEBRUARY 1996
COMMENCING AT 9.52AM

ATTENDANCE

Frank O'Connor	WA	Chairman
Tony Gill	Vic	
K Hughes	Vic	(Observer)
Jim Howard	Qld	
Don Kinnersley	NSW	
Don Munro	WA	
David Osgood	SA	

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved on the motion of Mr Kinnersley and Mr Howard.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

An agenda items were submitted by Queensland and New South Wales in regards to Council Initiatives.

Mr Munro and Mr Kinnersley put forward a motion which was typed up. After lengthy discussion they agreed to the motion being re-typed. After further discussion, additional amendments were made and the final draft as listed below was approved on the motion of Mr Gill and Mr Howard:-

- "1. Council supports in principle INITIATIVES to address the following issues:
- A. Interstate Operations and potential legislation including taxation issues.
 - B. Competition Policy - identify threats presented by current and potential legislation.
 - C. Image of co-operative: including public profile and political influence.

Subject to protection of existing State co-operative Rights and Privileges and existing State registration of co-operatives.

2. Initiative to include council;
- i) developing strategies after consultation with state federations, and
 - ii) after consideration of the strategies, for council and/or the state federations to seek financial assistance from interested co-operatives and other bodies to implement the strategies.
 - iii) Council supports the development of a campaign to promote the co-operative and mutual sector to policy makers, politicians, the media and other interested groups. The campaign will aim to raise the public profile and political influence of co-operatives, credit unions, mutual societies and friendly societies. The campaign will conduct research on the size of the co-operative and mutual sector in Australia and use its research findings to develop an increased awareness of the significance of the sector, particularly at the federal level.
 - iv) and for the council to direct and control this initiative."

Mr Munro suggested that States should undertake to act as a co-ordinator.

The following volunteered their services:-

Co-operative Image	Mr Gill for Victoria
Competition Policy	Mr Kinnersley for New South Wales
Legal and Taxation	Mr Howard for Queensland

ICA

The Council felt it was not in a position to join the ICA however if members were travelling overseas and were in a position to call in to the ICA then they could keep up informal links.

AGENDA ITEMS

The following agenda items were carried forward:-

What is the Co-operative Council of Australia's attitude to establishing a co-operative research unit at an Australian university to carry out research to support industry approaches to Government and to assist with co-operatives' development?

What is the Co-operative Council of Australia's attitude to employee share ownership plants (ESOP) and workers co-operatives in Australia.

NOTICES

Western Australia advised that their Annual Conference would be held from 16 - 17 April 1997.

Queensland advised that their Annual Conference would be held on the Gold Coast on 19 April 1997.

New South Wales advised that their Key Issues Conference would be held in Sydney in October and suggested that each State Federation attend and take advantage of the presence of overseas speakers.

South Australia and Victoria are to advise their Conference dates as soon as they have been set.

CLOSURE

To enable the interstate delegates to catch their flights, the Chairman closed the meeting at 2.30pm.